



The Pipeline



check payable to her mother for \$3,222.70-almost the same figure as the amount due on her mother's account at the nursing home.

The cabinet is not aware of any involvement by Alexander's mother in the scheme.

The indictment of Alexander was the second to be handed down within a month in which a former Cabinet for Families and Children employee stands accused of a fraud-related felony.

On Oct. 14, a Whitley County grand jury indicted Janice Terrell on four counts of program assistance fraud for allegedly diverting \$6,000 from a program intended to help low-income families. Terrell, 40, a former field services supervisor for the cabinet's Division of Family Support, could face up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

Mark Rosen, the cabinet's personnel director, said administrators in the agency have stepped up efforts to detect instances of employee fraud. He said the cabinet exhibits "zero tolerance" in such cases-meaning it will seek to dismiss offenders and, if appropriate, provide evidence involving them to law enforcement authorities.



Nancy Ovesen promoted to SRA

Nancy Ovesen has been promoted to the position of Service Region Administrator in the Fivco Service Region effective Dec. 1. Currently, Ovesen is an Executive Staff Advisor in the Office of the Ombudsman within the Cabinet for Families and Children, where she has worked for five years.

Indictment targets former child support worker

By Mike Jennings, CFC Communications

A former Cabinet for Families and Children employee accused of trying to illegally tap child support funds to pay her mother's nursing home bill faces a felony charge in Franklin Circuit Court. Beverly C. Alexander, 51, of Frankfort, was indicted Nov. 13 on a charge of first-degree unlawful access to a computer. If convicted, she could receive a prison sentence of up to 10 years.

Alexander, a Cabinet employee for more than 15 years, was a family support specialist in the Division of Child Support's central office in Frankfort. She resigned in August after she was confronted with the evidence against her.

The cabinet accepted her resignation "with prejudice"-meaning she could not reapply-and shared its evidence with the Office of the Inspector General and State Police.

The cabinet's investigation indicates that, on July 25, Alexander fraudulently changed the computerized record of a child support case by identifying her mother as the custodial parent after deleting the actual custodial parent's name. Alexander also changed the mailing address in the record to that of the nursing home in Indiana where her mother was a resident, the evidence shows.

Steven Veno, the cabinet's child support director, said Alexander's apparent fraud was detected after she issued a

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Frankfort Fire Department collects toys for children

This holiday season, the Frankfort Fire Department is holding a toy drive for disadvantaged children in the Frankfort area. Boxes located on each floor of the CHR Building will be available until Dec. 6 for employees who would like to donate NEW toys.

Drop a toy in the box, and make a child's Christmas a little brighter!

** For child safety reasons, only new toys can be accepted.*



Staff spreading holiday cheer to families in need



By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

Comprehensive Family Services makes community partners out of anyone who's able and willing to help families in need.

In the spirit of CFS, your office can "adopt" a Kentucky family who could use a helping hand during this holiday season.

Staff from the Office of the Family Resource and Youth Services Centers or Quality Central Connections can give you information about a needy family.

Bobbie Walters coordinated Quality Central Connections' (QCC) effort. After Walters' e-mail invitation for staff to help, 10 families already have been "adopted" through QCC. And Walters has information about more children who could use some good cheer and gifts.

With assistance from Angela Harris of Franklin County Protection and Permanency office, Walters gathered details about the families and their children – names, sizes and gift wish lists.

One family – a single mother and her two children – didn't anticipate needing assistance but lost their home in the area's recent storms, Walters said. One family is a grandmother raising her four grandchildren.

Walters said she is pleased with the response the project has gotten. "It sure makes you feel good when you just send out an e-mail and two days later the list you had is done." She said QCC may organize the effort earlier next year to be able to assist more families.

Three children – siblings living in separate homes – are still on Walters' list. If you'd like to help them or to pass along information about other families

who need our help, e-mail Walters or call her at 564-7536.

Carolyn Thomas of FRYSCs can contact regional program managers to get information about needy families from schools with FRYSCs. Contact Thomas by e-mail or at 564-4986.



Preston receives Career Service Certificate

OTS is presenting Ishmael Preston with a Career Service Certificate to commemorate his thirty years of service with the Commonwealth.

Preston began his career working for Child Welfare in Pike County in 1970. After five years on the job, he took off 18-months to earn a Masters Degree in Social Work at the University of Kentucky. Preston spent another year in Pike County before coming to Frankfort in 1979 to work for Child Welfare in the Human Resources Building.

Preston was asked by the DSS Commissioner to work on the TWIST Development team because he was one of the few people in the old Department of Social Services with any computer literacy. He moved to the Elkhorn Court building. Preston is currently an Information Systems Supervisor in the Automation and Business Development Branch, which is a branch of the OTS Division of System Support. His office is in the old bowling ally on Versailles Road. He is still the TWIST Project Manager.

Preston will receive a Career Service Certificate signed by Governor Patton.



Employees Receive Monetary Rewards for Suggestions

By Dawn Welch, CFC Division of Personnel

The Kentucky Employee Suggestion System is an incentive program designed to encourage employees to participate in good management by sharing their ideas on improving the productivity and the services offered by our state. This quarter, we had 4 employees who received monetary rewards for their suggestions. They are:

Department for Community Based Services:

Bertha Muchererra
Ken Pillion

Disability Determinations:

Karen Centers
Mary Jilka

Awards may range from a minimum of \$100 to ten percent (10%) of the first year's documented or estimated savings, up to a maximum of \$2,500. One hundred dollars (\$100) may be given for ideas that are adopted and have intangible savings.

If you think of a way to make state work or services more efficient, more economical, or safer, you can be recognized and rewarded for your good idea by submitting it through the Employee Suggestion System. For more information or to obtain a suggestion form, contact Dawn Welch, Cabinet Coordinator at 564-7770 ext. 4141 or log on to

<http://kygovnet.state.ky.us/personnel/essinfo.htm>